

## Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel

### MEETING MINUTES – 16 APRIL 2024

#### Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel (SEAP)

Date & Time:	16 April 2024 - 5:00pm
Location:	Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard
Council Representatives:	Cr Celisa Edwards (Chair), Cr Andrea Courtney (Deputy Chair)
Members:	Brenton Hosking, Colin Hocking, Fiona Loughran, Hannah Sadler, Ian Ferris, Ian Newman, Peter Lawrence, Robin Krabbe, Wendy Bryant
Staff in Attendance:	Dana Hicks, Kassandra Steward, Daniel Summers, Bill Walker
Apologies:	Cr Andrea Courtney (Deputy Chair)

#	AGENDA ITEMS
1.	Welcome
2.	Confirm Minutes
3.	Guest Presenter/s: None
4.	Active Actions
5.	Non-Active Actions (from action plan)
6.	Upcoming Meetings
7.	New/General Business:
8.	Closure
#	ACTIONS TAKEN
1.	Nil
#	RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL
1.	SEAP recommend to Council to adopt the interim Tree & Vegetation Policy and Guidelines.
2.	SEAP recommend to Council to advocate to the state government that they prioritise the release of the 'state of the environment' report this year.

### 1 WELCOME

- A quorum was established, and the meeting was officially opened at 17:00

### 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved W. Bryant Seconded P. Lawrence

That the minutes of the SEAP meeting held on 20 February 2024, as circulated to Members, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Carried.

### 3 GUEST PRESENTER/S: NONE

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#### 4 ACTIVE ACTIONS – MEETING OUTCOMES

Action Item	Source	Action Record	Responsibility	Outcome
<p>R:= recommendation</p> <p><b>Ballad Ave:</b> Suggest land use options for Council land.  R: The Ballad Avenue property be used to enhance the natural values and habitat area of the adjacent riparian zone of the Inglis River</p>	Council Request (relates to action plan)	<p><b>05/23:</b> first raised. <b>02/24:</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting. <b>03/24:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p>	<p>I. Ferris P. Lawrence F. Loughran H. Saddler B. Hosking D. Hicks</p>	<p>An update was provided to the group following the endorsement of the SEAPs recommendation to Council at the March Council meeting.  It was relayed that council officers had sought third party quotes to coordinate and develop a draft master plan for the Ballad Avenue site land. The group were notified that out of the procurement process a preferred consultant had been identified.  Further discussion suggested that it might be beneficial if there were a few more people in the subgroup as the consultancy commences. F. Loughran and H. Sadler have joined the subgroup as capacity allows along with B. Hosking.</p>
<p><b>Food Security:</b> Investigate opportunities to develop a food policy.  R: Identify and facilitate mapping of food security based partnerships.  R: Develop a food security policy and plan for the future of the community, incorporating community education on food security.</p>	Action Plan Focus Area 1.1	<p><b>03/23:</b> first raised. <b>09/23:</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting. <b>10/23:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed. <b>02/24:</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting. <b>03/24:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p>	<p>R. Krabbe H. Sadler W. Bryant D. Hicks D. Summers</p>	<p>The subgroup shared a meeting that had earlier in the week that included some discussion on way to progress some opportunities that they had come across. Once consolidated, the subgroup will present their suggestion to the group for the next meeting.  Further updates were discussed regarding the project plan to develop a policy. The team had presented some policy position ideas from other local government areas which are being reviewed.  Additionally, it was noted that an educational video had been developed to use internally at this stage. Once it is in a more developed state, it will be come back to the group.</p>

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<p>R:= recommendation</p> <p><b>Tree &amp; Vegetation Strategy:</b></p> <p>R: Review and replace the existing Tree Management Policy with a comprehensive Tree &amp; Vegetation Policy and Strategy</p>	<p>Action Plan</p> <p>Focus Area 3.1</p>	<p><b>03/23:</b> first raised.</p> <p><b>11/23:</b> recommendation raised from SEAP meeting.</p> <p><b>01/24:</b> recommendation made and endorsed.</p> <p><b>02/24:</b> SEAP endorse draft project plan.</p> <p><b>04/24:</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting</p>	<p>C. Hocking</p> <p>P. Lawrence</p> <p>I. Ferris</p> <p>D. Hicks</p> <p>D. Summers</p>	<p>Discussion began with a brief recap of the draft policy movements since the last meeting. A few minor changes were made to the policy and guidelines since the initial draft provided to the group. The changes were highlighted for review and discussed during the meeting.</p> <p>Discussion followed regarding the position of natives as a default position for restoration projects. It was advised that the policy on the table is an interim position which places priority on local provenance; a default position with the use of exemptions would take more discussion in the grand scheme, working toward an overarching strategy and policy.</p> <p>There was some discussion about whether comms would need to be discussed if the interim policy were to be adopted and the advice was given that council officers were already working with the comms team.</p> <p>Some minor adjustments and discussion around the guidelines occurred including the journey to asset recognition, the development of a significant tree register, high value vegetation, removal destruction and pruning, and formula for destruction reparations as well as who people might contact should community members notice vegetation of concern or concerning behaviour.</p> <p>The group agreed to the amendments as discussed and agreed to put forward a recommendation that the interim policy and guidelines be adopted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> I. Ferris <b>Seconded:</b> H. Sadler</p>

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				<p>The group went onto review the draft categories of significance. It was suggested that a draft word version of the document be circulated for review, feedback and “pub testing” both by group members and internally to council. In response to a question about the availability of the document outside the group setting, it was advised that members do not share the document but may speak about the ideas with others.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> SEAP recommend to Council to adopt the interim Tree &amp; Vegetation Policy and Guidelines.</p> <p><b>Task:</b> D. Hicks circulate Word version of draft categories of significance document to SEAP members for feedback.</p>
<p><b>HEAT:</b> R: Council to seek out greater uptake options</p>	<p>Action Plan Focus Area 1:</p>	<p><b>03/23:</b> first raised. <b>05/23:</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting. <b>06/23:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p>	<p>P. Lawrence K. Steward</p>	<p>A brief update was provided to the group. It was noted that information on accessible resources to support Council’s HEAT program had been sought from local, state and federal government bodies. A response that was finally received on the day of the SEAP meeting, confirmed that there is currently, no verifiable support for the HEAT toolkit.</p> <p>The main contact at Hobart City Council is no longer available and others who had previously been available to provide support either no longer have funding or have ceased operation.</p> <p>The group was informed that a discussion paper is being prepared that will include options to allow Council to decide how best to proceed noting the lack of available support for the program in the state. It was relayed that the paper should be tabled for discussion at the next SEAP meeting.</p>

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R:= recommendation				<p>It was suggested that there are several mainland Councils who provide the same type of support to their communities; it was suggested that these may be useful resources to draw from. One member mentioned another group (TAS COSS) who also may prove helpful in this space.</p> <p><b>Task:</b> H. Sadler to provide Council officers information and contact details for TAS COSS in relation to the home energy audit toolkit.</p>
<p><b>Sisters Beach Road:</b></p> <p>R: Council to request reduced speed limit.</p> <p>R: Council consideration for extending virtual fencing.</p>	SEAP	<p><b>05/23:</b> recommendations raised at SEAP meeting.</p> <p><b>06/23:</b> recommendations made to Council and endorsed.</p>	<p><b>D. Summers</b></p> <p><b>B. Walker</b></p>	<p>In relation to an earlier SEAP recommendation for consideration to the extension of the wildlife (Devil) fences along Sisters Beach Road, the group were told that significant data gathering would need to occur. While awaiting the CHC options paper and costing information for SEAP's consideration, members were advised that the current data counter information for high season was a bit too old to use being from 2010-2016. It was suggested that to support better data it might be better to defer the action until the next school summer holidays. The group was also advised that the options paper was nearly ready, just in need of final reviews prior to release, it is currently sitting with Cradle Coast Authority.</p> <p>It was also noted that the short film on the short film spoken about during the last meeting which highlights the roadkill issue is being screened locally in CHC and Wynyard in the coming weeks. (Wynyard Sat. 4 May from 2-5 at the Watershed).</p>

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R:= recommendation				<p>Further questions were raised regarding the speed reduction recommendation previously raised. As previously advised, roadkill statistics are not taken into consideration by the governing body. It was noted that there is a possibility of review which may consider this information in future, but it is not certain. It was also questioned how some roads manage to get a speed reduction where other similar roads are unable. It was suggested that accident data tends to carry weight but that not all accidents may be recorded or more aptly recorded in the appropriate reporting system. It was suggested to find out where the data used comes from and ensure that accident data find its way to the correct system.</p> <p><b>Task:</b> D. Hicks to pass on details and socials for the short film screening to group.</p> <p><b>Task:</b> D. Summers to determine the source of the accident data used to assist in determining speed limit reductions.</p>
<b>BREAK at 17:55 – RESUME at 18:00</b>				
<p><b>Expanding Focus Areas:</b></p> <p>R: SEAP &amp; Councillors to attend other municipal localities to expand focus.</p>	SEAP	<p><b>09/23:</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting.</p> <p><b>10/23:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p> <p><b>02/24:</b> SEAP to identify site locations to visit</p>	SEAP	No Discussion

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<p>R:= recommendation</p> <p><b>School Engagement on Alternative Transport:</b>            R: Council to engage with school community re: traffic &amp; ways to encourage walking/riding to school</p>	SEAP (Action Plan Focus Area 1)	<p><b>11/23:</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting.</p> <p><b>01/24:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p>	D. Hicks	<p>SEAP were provided a brief update on proposed upcoming activities which included liaising with the schools on the upcoming walk to school day in May. The group were advised that as part of the Austin Street sports precinct updates, Council had approved a 3 month trial close to a portion of Austin Street between the Rec Ground and the Indoor Sports Centre as a means of enhancing connectivity and walkability. Additionally, it was suggested that once the pathway was complete a riding event could be organised by community groups such as a commute to workday or similar.</p> <p>The discussion raised interest in the possibility of walk &amp; ride or park &amp; ride opportunities (particularly for the coastal pathway project) and an active recreation focus. The group talked about messaging for pathway use, signage, mapping, distances to and from POIs and maps as well as aspirational ideals around bike lockups with park &amp; rides and availability of public facilities such as showers or wayfinding indicators for public facilities along the pathway.</p>
<p><b>FOGO:</b>            Regional implementation of FOGO for reduced waste to landfill.</p>	Council, (Action Plan Focus Area 2)	<p><b>03/23:</b> 2020 feasibility study shared with SEAP.</p> <p><b>05/23:</b> Council endorse regional rollout.</p> <p><b>02/24:</b> update on rollout.</p>	D. Hicks	<p>A brief update was provided on the FOGO implementation planning and community consultation which is currently underway.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Council had a stall at the Wynyard Show in mid-March, which included a FOGO game for children and one-on-one information/discussions with adults. The responses were mostly positive with only one person expressly stating they did not want a FOGO service. Another comms event is planned to be held at a May Foreshore Market (tentatively 19/5).</p>

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				<p>The next stage of comms and engagement is due to commence as we get closer to implementation date. Council will be updated regularly on general community sentiment based on queries/feedback to the regional call centre which will be overseen by Dulverton Waste Management on behalf of NW coast councils.</p> <p>It was suggested that perhaps a visit to the new Dulverton facility could be arranged.</p> <p>It was highlighted that comms will be key in this space. A member identifying that there may be someone who could be of assistance in noting that there is a bin monitor champion in Sisters Beach who assists the community now.</p> <p>Additionally, there was discussion around data recording capabilities with regard to recycling, waste and FOGO. It was noted that there was a possibility to identify percentage of contamination with the technology used with the bin lifts. A final question, taken on notice, was around the ability to dispose of FOGO materials should someone miss their fortnightly pickup. It was queried whether there was the potential for disposal at the transfer station as you might have if you missed recycle or waste pickup.</p> <p><b>Task:</b> D. Hicks to arrange a site visit to the new Dulverton FOGO facility for SEAP members and Councillors.</p> <p><b>Task:</b> F. Loughran to provide contact details of bin monitor champion at Sisters Beach.</p>



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#### 5 NON-ACTIVE ACTIONS – FOR INFORMATION

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R:= recommendation			
<b>Community Adaptation &amp; Resilience:</b> provide case studies to assist progress for achievable projects.	Action Plan Focus Area 1:	<b>03/23:</b> first raised	No Discussion
<b>Climate Leadership in line with Paris Agreement</b> R: Develop a position statement opposing further offshore oil and gas exploration and development in waters off Tasmania, consistent with its commitments in Council's Integrated Council Environment Plan (iCEP), due to its negative impact on north-west Tasmania's marine resources and contribution to climate change	Action Plan Focus Area 1	<b>03/24:</b> recommendation made to Council, noted and tabled for workshopping.	A brief update was requested in 'general business' on the outcome of the recommendation to council from the February meeting regarding a position statement on offshore oil and gas exploration. It was advised that the position statement was deferred until the councillors could have a workshop on the subject. In the meantime, Council provided consultation feedback statement to Esso Australia in relation the Kipper Subsea Drilling project prior to the end of the consultation period.
<b>Waste Education</b> Seek information on possible funding for waste education through the state government.	Action Plan Focus Area 2	<b>03/23:</b> first raised	No Discussion
<b>Green Waste Recycling</b>	Action Plan Focus Area 2		No Discussion
<b>Local &amp; Sustainable Food Waste Systems</b>	Action Plan Focus Area 2		No Discussion
<b>Increase Native Biodiversity</b>	Action Plan Focus Area 3		No Discussion
<b>Land for Wildlife Reserves</b>	Action Plan Focus Area 3		No Discussion
<b>Natural Values Database</b>	Action Plan Focus Area 3		No Discussion

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R:= recommendation			
<b>Plan for Arboreta/ums</b>	Action Plan Focus Area 3		No Discussion
<b>Weed Reduction Program:</b> form a sub-group and produce reduction program incl. education	Action Plan Focus Area 3	<b>03/23:</b> first raised.	No Discussion
<b>Wildlife Corridors:</b> research and provide case studies for the group's consideration to follow vegetation strategy actions	Action Plan Focus Area 3	<b>03/23:</b> first raised.	<p>A first draft of the table of options was provided for discussion. It was noted that this was a very early, pre-emptive start to a future discussion once the vegetation management strategy is in hand given their linkages.</p> <p>It is suggested that over time, as the Vegetation Management Policy and Strategy progresses, the Wildlife Corridors will continue to develop similarly in tandem allowing the plan to be in a more advanced planning state for progress and recommendation at an appropriate time.</p> <p>It was proposed that corridors need to be kept in mind as the policies within the vegetation framework are created because of the connectivity, what impacts one will likely affect the other, especially important when considering endangered species.</p> <p>It was suggested that the table of options be used as a working document, a parking lot for ideas for collaboration among the group in the background. It is requested that feedback be sent to C. Hocking and circulated among members.</p>

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			<p>Discussion continued for a short period in several areas such as functional vs physical corridor opportunities, immediate priorities such as threatened and endangered species identification, future proofing and the process for identifying and enhancing current corridors and mapping natural values.</p> <p>A question was raised regarding the state of the environment which was being sought by the deputy chair since last year and is yet to be released by the state government. It is thought that this report could have information that would not only feed into what SEAP are trying to accomplish but could inform priorities. It was agreed to recommended advocating to the state government that they prioritise the release of the state of the environment this year.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> H. Sadler <b>Seconded:</b> C. Hocking</p> <p><b>Task:</b> C. Hocking to provide ideas and issues for comment and circulate to group out of session for collaboration on priority.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> SEAP recommend to Council to advocate to the state government that they prioritise the release of the 'state of the environment' report this year.</p>

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<p>R:= recommendation</p> <p><b>Sponsorship Signage Policy:</b>            R: amend Sponsorship Signage Policy to exclude fossil fuels in recognition of their health and climate impacts.</p>	Action Plan Focus Area 1	<p><b>03/23</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting.</p> <p><b>04/23:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p> <p><b>05/23:</b> implementation complete, action closed.</p>	<b>COMPLETE - CLOSED</b>
<p><b>Cities of Power</b>            R: participate in the Cities Power Partnership which presents an opportunity to join dozens of other councils across the country leading the way to a zero emissions future by providing the necessary tools, resources, and connections to help accelerate their climate and energy goals.</p>	Action Plan Focus Area 1	<p><b>03/23</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting.</p> <p><b>04/23:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p> <p><b>04/23:</b> implementation initiated.</p> <p><b>07/23:</b> implementation complete, action closed</p>	<b>COMPLETE - CLOSED</b>
<p><b>Annual EcoFair:</b>            R: Introduce an annual EcoFair event in conjunction with Spring Loaded to raise awareness in the community and promote sustainable living and a healthy relationship with the environment.</p>	Action Plan Focus Area 3	<p><b>03/23</b> recommendation raised at SEAP meeting.</p> <p><b>04/23:</b> recommendation made to Council and endorsed.</p> <p><b>04/23:</b> implementation initiated.</p> <p><b>10/23:</b> implementation complete, action closed.</p>	<b>COMPLETE – CLOSED</b>

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#### 6 UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next meeting on 18 June 2024 located at Council Chambers has been confirmed.

#### 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chair called for members to raise other general business; the following discussions were noted:

- D. Summers advised that a draft storm water policy was in the works that the council could use for setting of development control conditions, primarily. There is an avenue under the Urban Drainage Act for Council to put something in place. With this in mind, it was suggested that the draft policy could be tabled for review and input at SEAP.
- D. Hicks raised a suggestion regarding SEAP advice on upcoming capital programmes around environmental implications with the intent being to start our planning journey for those projects with environment in the back of the mind, rather than starting and having something go wrong. The group was informed that a process for this is being worked out.
- After the update on the February recommendation to council on a position statement for offshore oil and gas exploration, H. Sadler raised a question on how local government representatives get their information on the environment. It was queried whether it would be helpful in such circumstances as with offshore oil and gas exploration workshop discussion, to have someone such as a climate science expert or similar, attend the relevant workshop to assist with that level of detail.

#### 8 CLOSURE

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 19:05